

John W. Berresford Attorney-Advisor Policy Division Media Bureau Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Suite 4-C831 Washington, DC 20554 Received & Inspected

MAY 262009

FCC Mail Room

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07-51

May 15, 2009

RE: File No. MB-07-51-0001

Dear Mr. Berresford:

I have recently become aware of the letters to you from Davis Wright Tremaine, LLP dated November 25, 2008 and March 12, 2009 representing Cablevision of Marion County (CMC).

The FCC initially sent a request for information to Cablevision of Marion County asking for a factual response based on relevant documentation under penalty of perjury. CMC continues to make false claims and misrepresents the facts of the situation and submits irrelevant information for consideration.

I feel it is necessary to respond to some of the false statements and misrepresentations in the letters. My comments are backed up by specific documentation in previous correspondence from myself and others including a survey from the Palm Cay Committee charged with determining the actual will of the residence on the CMC issue.

Following are statements which I feel are on point in this matter.

- 1. The letter states "As demonstrated below, CMC has not enforced any such exclusivity provision in Palm Cay." Every homeowner is forced to pay CMC at least a minimum monthly fee of \$10.00 under threat of lien and foreclosure. Many homeowners, not satisfied with the CMC service or programming choices have contracted with satellite service in defiance of the CMC monopoly. I have submitted documentation of the truth of this statement and Roger Demary, former President of the PCHA has submitted a comprehensive survey of homeowners supporting this position.
- 2. The letter identifies LPA, Inc., a Florida Corporation, as a party to the current CMC claim. This is not factual. K-4 Corp sold the cable system to CMC prior to LPA, Inc acquiring the remainder of the amenities which are provided, under the Declarations, for use by residents. As a point of information the water system was also sold to an outside party around the same time and was no longer "bulk" billed through the Declarant as part of the amenity package.
- 3. The letter states that the agreement "could be read to provide CMC with the exclusive

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right to provide television services to the residents of Palm Cay". The term "could be read" is false and misleading. Para 31 of the Declarations still to this day gives the sole right of providing television service to the Declarant who would "bulk bill" for this service and lien and foreclose if not paid by the homeowner. CMC is not the Declarant and has no right to force payment from home owners. CMC's claim is based on a sales contract between K-4 and CMC. No obligations under the Declaration can be changed by the sales contract.

- 4. The letter states that "CMC has never attempted to enforce the exclusivity portion of this agreement". That is a bald-faced lie. We have already submitted letters from CMC to homeowners demanding payment and threatening lien and foreclosure. However CMC has never, to my knowledge, ever filed any liens. Instead they threaten homeowners. This threat has weight because many of the homes in Palm Cay are owned by elderly residents on limited incomes, primarily social security, but who own their homes with no mortgage.
- 5. The letter states that "Palm Cay residents are required by the terms of their covenants to purchase basic service from CMC. This is a false statement. The covenants give the Declarant the sole right to demand payment from homeowners...period. If the Declarant actually reacquired the cable system then LPA, Inc would be entitled to "bulk bill" as part of the amenity package.
- 6. Paragraph 4 of the letter asks "originally there was exclusivity but there no longer is". Venture and Associates was the original developer and submitted a comprehensive "bulk bill" to all residents including cable service and water. When the cable system and water system were sold the bulk billing ceased and water and cable were directly billed by the new owners. The Declarant continued to "bulk bill" for the clubhouse, pool, tennis courts, and trash pickup. We have previously submitted the minutes of the PCHA meeting where Ken Kirkpatrick, Pres., LPA, Inc. reaffirmed this point.
- 7. The "exclusivity" claim of CMC is bogus. CMC certainly has the right to offer cable service to any resident that wishes to have CMC as a provider since CMC has the only cable system in the community. The question is one of <u>free choice</u> for residents. Changing technology has made available more choices for homeowners, yet CMC continues to demand payment whether or not their service is desired or used.
- 8. CMC demands payment for a "basic" package. It is literally the local channels plus a community information channel. In other words they are offering nothing that cannot be received on an antenna with a converter box. We want a better choice at a competitive price.
- 9. CMC has continued to abuse residents with excessive and fraudulent late charges. Attached is a bill dated 10-29-2007 stating that the late fee is \$5.00. The actual charge is \$10.00, double the monthly charge. This should be criminal.

- 10. CMC is desperate to maintain a revenue stream from Palm Cay to retire debt and pay costs. However CMC is delinquent \$16,790.70 in personal property taxes for 2008. (Star Banner, Thursday, May 14, 2009)
- 11. In the letter dated March 12, 2009 from J R King, he tries to discredit the survey done by the Palm Cay committee. Mr King has attended several Palm Cay board meetings where he experienced, first hand, the objections of Palm Cay residents. He will not show up for any more meetings. If you want to verify our outrage at this situation please contact Rep Cliff Sterns for input.
- 12. If the current monopoly is allowed to continue the annual cost for basic service to 787 homes in Palm Cay would be \$94,440. CMC actually claims to have the right to provide substandard service and still get paid an outrageous amount plus taking our homes if we do not pay.
- 13. The letter dated March 12, 2009 signed by J. R King is an example of the misleading and false claims by CMC. The numerous complaints by residents to the Florida Dept of Agriculture & Consumer Services were closed because CMC refused to participate in non-binging arbitration as a way to resolve this matter.
- 14. CMC will continue to mislead, delay and evade FCC action unless forced to be accountable to the new Law.

I formally request a hearing by the FCC into this matter so that all parties can testify under oath on this matter. A committee of Palm Cay residents is available to testify before the FCC. Please advise when this can be scheduled.

In closing. This is America, the land of freedom to chose. If CMC is allowed to continue to collect fraudulent fees of \$94,440 per year by intimidation and fraud this makes me lose all faith in our system.

Yours truly,

Frank D. Mink

5493 NW 27th Place

Ocala, Fl 34482-8750

352-369-0699

CABLEVISION OF MARION COUNTY 627 ACCOUNT NAME CLOSING DATI FRANK D MINK 10/29/2007

ADDRESS AT WHICH SERVICE IS PROVIDED	SERVICE SROW	PERIOT	BILLING PHONE F	REPAIR PHONE'S:	SERVICE PHONE :
11216 SW 76TH TR	11/01/07	11/30/07	352-854-0408	352-854-0408	352-854-0408

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AVOUNT
BALAN	NCE FORWARD	70.83
10/17/07 LATE FEE		5.00
11/01/07 TAXES,FEES & CHARGE	ES	2.02
11/01/07 BROADCAST CHANNEL	LSVC	10.00
11/01/07 FCC FEE		0.07
11/01/07 FLORIDA STATE SALES	STAX	0.68
11/01/07 TAXES,FEES & CHARGE 11/01/07 BROADCAST CHANNEL 11/01/07 FCC FEE	LSVC	1 1

A LATE FEE OF \$5.00 WILL BE ADDED TO YOUR ACCOUNT IF PAYMENT IS NOT RECEIVED BY THE 15TH.

SIGN UP FOR AUTO PAY TODAY. Visit our website @ www.cvofmc.com or www.lightningspeed.net to obtain an authorization form for checking, savings or credit card automatic payments. It's easy and it's FREE !!

WATCH OUR NEW BIG TEN NETWORK PREVIEWING ON CHANNEL 20! Sign up for Digital Service before NOVEMBER 10th and receive a free Digital Upgrade !!

DUE DATE	PRIOR BALANCE	CHARGES	CREDITS	ANOUNT DUE
UPON RECEIPT	70.83	17. 7 7	-0.00	88.60

PLEASE DETACH AND RETURN LOWER PORTION WITH PAYMENT

Cablevision of Marion County 8296 SW 103rd St Rd, Suite 3 Ocala, FL 34481-1701

ACCOUNT NUMBER

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001-00007516

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of Marion County LLC

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Cablevision of Marion County PO BOX 850001 ORLANDO, FL 32885-0024

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